के साथ-साथ चुनिन्दा आधुनिकीकरण स्वैच्छिक सेवा निवृत्तियों पर वेशी श्रम शक्ति के सुव्यवस्थीकरण तथा उत्पाद मिश्र को उन्नत बनाने पर आधारित है।

तमिलनाडु के हथकरघा बुनकरों द्वारा आन्दोलन

1756. **श्री राम नरेश यादव :** क्या वस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि तमिलनाडु के हथकरघा बुनकरो ने अभी हाल ही में ततु के दामों में वृद्धि होने के कारण आन्दोलन करने का निश्चय किया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार ने इन बुनकरों से बात करके उन्हें आन्दोलन न करने के लिए राजी करने का प्रयास किया है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में विस्तृत जानकारी क्या है और यदि नही, तो इस मामले में कोई प्रयास न किए जाने के क्या कारण हैं ?

वस्त्र मंत्री (श्री राम निवास मिर्धा) : (क) से (ग) तमिलनाडु सरकार ने सूचित किया है कि राज्य सरकार की योजना "यार्न फार पावर" के अन्तर्गत विभिन्न हथकरघा एसोसिएशनों के यार्न की सप्लाई के लिए दरें निर्धारित किए जाने के परिणामस्वरूप हथकरघा बुनकर संघों द्वारा पहले जारी किया गया हड़ताल का नोटिस वापिस ले लिया गया है।

Army personnel killed in Manipur

1757. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drown to the press report which appeared in the Hindustan Times of the 8th July, 1988 to the effect that 2 Army Majors and Jawan were killed in Ukhrul District of Mani-Pur;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether any steps have been taken by Government to stop such incidents and if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On 7th July, 1988 a Security Force jeep in which two Majors and a Jawan of the Assam Rifles were travelling was fired upon by extremists belonging to NSCN in Ukhrul town. In this incident, two Majors and a Jawan of Assam Rifles were killed and the driver and two civilians were injured.

(c) Meitei extermist organisations viz. People's Liberation Army, People's Revolutionary Party of Kangleipak etc. in Manipur have been declared as 'unlawful associations' under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967. The entire State of Manipur has been declared as 'disturbed area'. In addition, a 5 Km belt along the Indo-Burma border in Nagaland and Tirap District of Arunachal Pradesh has also been declared as 'disturbed area'. The strength of para-military forces where necessary has been suitably augmented. During this year upto 2.8.88, 57 NSCN undergrounds (Nagaland-34, Manipur-6, Tirap Dist. 17) have been arrested and another 24 have surrendered. In addition, 11 NSCN undergrounds (Nagaland-5, Manipur-4, Tirap Dist.-2) were killed in encounters with Security Forces.

Setting up of Housing Finance company by the Punjab National Bank

1758. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Punjab National Bank has set up Housing Finance Com-

pany for financing housing activities in Northern Region on the pattern of 'Can Fan Home Ltd.' a subsidiary of Canara Bank; if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) whether any other Bank has set up any subsidiary or otherwise for financing housing activities in Northern Region if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) if the reply to parts (a) and (b) above be in the negative what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) what are the names of the institutions other than LIC and HUDCO which are financing, housing activities of individuals in Northern Region including scheduled commercial Banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that Punjab National Bank (PNB) has recently been permitted to promote a fully owned subsidiary for undertaking housing finance activities in Northern States/Union Territories comprising Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Chandigarh and Delhi.

(b) and (c) RBI has reported that Canbank Financial Services Ltd. has also promoted an institution jointly with Canara Bank for undertaking housing finance activities in Union Territory of Delhi in addition to States in Southern Region.

(d) The RBI has further reported that in addition to LIC and HUDCO, scheduled commercial banks are providing finance for housing activities. Three housing finance companies also provide housing finance to individuals in the country.

Inflation rate

1759. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether latest data, available indicate an inflation rate of 10.4 per cent during 1987-88. which is nearly double the inflation rate of 5.3 per cent for 1986-87; and

(b) if so, what were the main factors to which this hike in the inflation rate is attributable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) The rate of inflation during 1987-88 was 10.6 per cent as against 5.3 per cent in 1986-87. The latest data indicate that the annual rate of inflaton has come down to 7.5 per cent as on July 23rd, 1988.

Prices remained under pressure during 1987-88 on account of the severe drought. The inflation rate during the year was, however, much lower than in the earlier years of comparable drought.

Extremist activity on Orissa, Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh Borders

1760. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of increased extremist activity on Orissa-Andhra Pradesh-Madhya Pradesh borders;

(b) what assistance has been given to the concerned State Governments to tackle this menace; and

(c) what measures are being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND